

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application:

71 (Currently amended). A distal protection device disposable within a vessel of a body comprising:

a guidewire;

a tube having a lumen sized to receive the guidewire;

a filter basket connected to the tube, the filter basket having a closed distal end and an open proximal end; and

a spacing member connected to the tube and positioned proximally of the proximal end of the filter basket, the spacing member being configured to maintain the proximal end of the filter basket in an opened configuration when the device is deployed within the vessel, and the spacing member ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a wire form.

72 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 71 wherein the tube is configured for rotational movement along the guidewire.

73 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 71 wherein the tube is configured for rotational and axial movement along the guidewire.

74 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 71 wherein the tube is fixed to the guidewire.

75 (Currently amended). A distal protection device disposable within a vessel of a body comprising:

a guidewire;
a tube having a lumen sized to receive the guidewire;
a filter basket connected to the tube, the filter basket having a closed distal end and an open proximal end; and
a spacing member having a first portion connected to the tube and a second portion opposite the first portion which is configured to contact an inner wall of the vessel at a point of engagement when the device is deployed in the vessel to space the guidewire a desired distance from the point of engagement, the spacing member being positioned proximally of the proximal end of the filter basket, and the spacing member ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a wire form.

76 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 75 wherein the tube is configured for rotational movement along the guidewire.

77 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 75 wherein the tube is configured for rotational and axial movement along the guidewire.

78 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 75 wherein the tube is fixed to the guidewire.

79 (Currently amended). A distal protection device disposable within a vessel of a body comprising:

a guidewire;
a tube having a lumen sized to receive the guidewire;
a filter basket connected to the tube, the filter basket having a closed distal end and an open proximal end; and

a spacing member having first and second opposing portions, the first portion being connected to the tube, the second portion being configured to contact an inner wall of the vessel at a point of engagement when the device is deployed in the vessel such that the guidewire is urged in a direction away from the point of engagement, the spacing member being positioned proximally of the proximal end of the filter basket, and the spacing member ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a wire form.

80 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 79 wherein the tube is configured for rotational movement along the guidewire.

81 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 79 wherein the tube is configured for rotational and axial movement along the guidewire.

82 (Previously presented). The distal protection device of claim 79 wherein the tube is fixed to the guidewire.